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22 October 1952

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MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED] OIC

FROM: Deputy Assistant Director, OCD

SUBJECT: OCD Overseas Personnel Requirements

In June, 1951, the Projects Review Committee approved the establishment of an OCD Overseas Microfilm Team. The purpose of this project was to screen and microfilm where necessary information of intelligence value available in Western Europe and which, although overtly available in European centers, was not available in Washington. During the course of this operation it soon became evident that a wealth of intelligence data could be readily procured from Embassies, MCA Missions, and other overt sources. During fifteen months over 1,000 reels of microfilm were made (approximately 1,000 frames per reel) and thousands of documents, books, pamphlets, etc. were obtained and shipped to Washington. The team worked very closely with all U.S. representatives overseas and was particularly useful in coordinating the Agency's requirements with all collectors including the PPCs (Publications Procurement Officers, State), who welcomed their assistance. We feel that it is highly desirable that this project be continued in order to cope with new data as it is located and also to continue the contacts made during the operation of the unit. For example, MCA does not accept requirements for collection from CIA and the Agency's covert missions are not in a position to exploit the MCA offices.

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